

30 Sep 53

AIR

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE IN FULL

HGG-A-411

Chief, WHD

2003

Chief of Station, Guatemala

Operational
KUGOWN Activities

References: 1) HGG-A-368 3) HGG-A-293
2) HGG-A-292

1. Further developmental activity relating to Identity B of reference 3) is contained in the following paragraphs.
2. For receipting/reporting purposes Identity A has been given the random pseudonym Oscar H. CARTER which will be used henceforth.
3. Tentatively CARTER and his associates have elected to undertake overt propaganda activities under the organizational name Comite Nacional de Liberación. CARTER reports this Comite has established distribution groups capable of immediate action (e.g., college students; railroad workers who can make distribution to key towns along the transcontinental rail line; truck drivers who can make distribution to towns not served by other means of transportation; young boys in the 10-15 age group for distribution in city streets).
4. As noted, the CNL will be an overt anti-Communist organization. Covert dissemination of black propaganda will be handled by clandestine units or cells directed by trusted lieutenants of CARTER. These cells will be unwitting of each other; distributors will not know producers; CARTER himself will ostensibly remain aloof from clandestine activity and pose as the leader of a legal political anti-Communist group; members of the cells will be forbidden to engage in overt political activity and told to adopt an apolitical attitude in public. It is believed that such measures will provide greater security; prevent government retaliation; introduce an element of harassment into the PW effort and thereby increase the impact of the propaganda when it becomes known that clandestine groups are at work (i.e., public curiosity will be aroused and a propaganda item so distributed will probably be passed from hand to hand, talked about,

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carried home, etc., unlike much of the overt saturation type of distribution which is sometimes met with indifference).

5. CARTER has provided this station with a distribution list containing thirty-five towns and villages in twenty-one departments. The list also contains the names of selected persons in each town and village who will be responsible for distribution.
6. According to CARTER, contact with exiled groups in Honduras and El Salvador has been established by means of clandestine border crossings. An intensive effort will be made in December to achieve the election of friendly local officials in border towns so that border crossing routes will be relatively free from police interference.
7. Enclosed are samples of the various anti-Communist propaganda items that will be released by the CARTER group (see HQ-A-368). One item (in all three sizes - i.e., 4" x 4" sticker, 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" leaflets, and 9" x 12" posters) will be released at two week intervals. Tentative release dates are shown under each of the enclosed stickers. Leaflets, stickers and posters of the same item will be released on the same date. Approximately 106,600 copies of Items 1 ("Comunismo...") and 2 ("15 de Septiembre...") were released in the capital city and in 122 outlying towns and fincas on 15 September 1953. Preliminary reports and investigation indicate moderate success. The Comité de Estudiantes Universitarios Anticomunistas was the chief vehicle utilized for distribution in the capital. Coverage was especially good in theatres (e.g., leaflets thrown from balconies), public markets, and small stores outside the downtown area. Distribution in stores in the downtown area was disappointing. CARTER stated that the proprietors accepted the items in many cases but did not use them apparently because the reprisals following the Salamá incident are still fresh in their minds. Apparently public response in the provincial towns was very good. CARTER claims to have received several requests for more material and expressing enthusiasm for that already released.

It appears that the leaflets ("flyers" or throw-aways) were the best item because of ease of distribution. Also, unlike the stickers and posters, the leaflets could be passed from hand to hand, carried home, etc. This item can be produced quickly and at a lower cost and will probably be used more extensively in the future.

CARTER has ordered slides of each item for projection in theaters before the feature and during intermissions. Other ideas regarding alternate media, methods, etc., are being studied and plans formulated for subsequent campaigns. Upon completion of this trial period all phases of the operation will be carefully assessed and a decision made regarding the advisability of formalizing the operation in project form. If developmental and trial activity is deemed successful a project outline will be sent to

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headquarters without delay.

8. Political Activity. The political phase of CARTER's and Identity A's activities are summarized herewith.

Material received from headquarters has been transmitted to the principals concerned for study and guidance in the formulation of a party platform.

For the moment, CARTER prefers to concentrate on the establishment of separate political action groups - e.g., labor, market women, farm workers, students, truck drivers, businessmen, etc. This is believed necessary to avoid the disunity which crippled any effective action by opposition parties in the past when anti-Communists attempted to weld groups with conflicting interests into a single unit. Each of the groups now projected will be led by a trusted follower of CARTER. When united action is required these group leaders will rally their respective elements into a coalition movement.

9. Support. Headquarters and other stations. It is suggested that the responsible office at headquarters forward selected anti-Communist themes ("ideas") of a general nature (e.g., cartoons and drawings that might be reproduced locally for "sticker" or leaflet distribution). We particularly need "ideas" of a general nature related to international Communism that can be interspersed with the more specific items that are tailored to the local situation. Transmittal of such "idea" material on a small but steady basis will be especially helpful to us in this early period of developmental activity.

At the moment we have no specific requests for support from stations in adjoining countries. However, CARTER has tentatively suggested to HEDIGER the need for clandestine channels of communication with exiled groups in addition to the border crossings now being made on an infrequent schedule. HEDIGER made no commitments to CARTER, but if and when this operation develops into the mechanism we anticipate it may be desirable to use station pouch facilities occasionally to forward messages to and from CARTER and the exiled groups. It is believed this could be arranged securely without revealing ODTAKE support or the method of transmittal.

30 September 1953

Kenneth S. Givloch

GLT/anh
Distribution:
3-Wash
1-Files

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